

Remarks

The Examiner has imposed a restriction requirement indicating that the claims are directed to more than one invention and are distinct requiring an election of one of the following inventions:

Group I, including claims 1-36, drawn to special services including provisions for subscriber services normally provided with additional fees in a multiplex communication network, classified in class 370, subclass 259; and

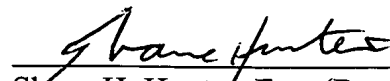
Group II, including claims 37-48, drawn to communication over free space wherein multiplex communication signals are transmitted over a medium which is not a wire or a waveguide, classified in class 370, subclass 310.

As required by the Examiner's restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect without traverse the claims of Group I, including claims 1-36. Applicants have cancelled claims 37-48 without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims that are equal to or broader in scope than those currently elected and submitted in this Response.

On the basis of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for examination. If there are any questions regarding these amendments and remarks, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311, Reference No. 23484-015.

Respectfully submitted,


Shane H. Hunter, Esq. (Reg. No. 41,858)
Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris,
Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.
One Financial Center
Boston, MA 02111
Telephone 617/348-1765
Attorneys for Applicants
Customer Number 30623

Date: January 14, 2005